PARCC Assessment Administration & Technology Guidance

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Agenda

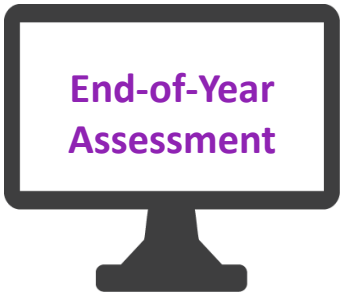
Welcome	Cody Decker
PARCC Assessments	Melody Morgan
PARCC Planning Tool	Melody Morgan
Technology Readiness Tool (TRT)	Sarah Cox
Technology Guidance	Holly Glover
Questions & Contact Information	All

Webinar Focus

- The design of PARCC's English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics summative assessments
- The number of testing sessions and approximate testing time
- The number of days over which schools may administer the assessments (testing window)
- A general "rule of thumb" guidance for the number of computer devices needed to administer the assessments
- A new tool designed to assist local policy makers and educators build the technology capacity they need to administer PARCC's computer-based assessments in 2014-15

PARCC Assessment Design

Summative Assessments



- After 75 percent of the school year
- Extended tasks, applications of concepts and skills
  - **ELA/Literacy:** Writing effectively when analyzing text, research simulation
  - **Math:** Solving multi-step problems requiring abstract reasoning, precision, perseverance and strategic use of tools
  - **ELA/Literacy** Grades 3-11
  - **Math** Grades 3-8, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II

- After 90 percent of the school year
- Innovative, short-answer items
  - **ELA/Literacy:** Reading comprehension
  - **Math**: Short items that address both concepts and skills
  - **ELA/Literacy** Grades 3-11
  - **Math** Grades 3-8, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II

Number of Testing Sessions

Summative Assessments

Nine (9) Sessions Total

Three (3) Sessions ELA /Literacy

+

Two (2) Mathematics Sessions

Two (2) Sessions ELA /Literacy

+

Two (2) Mathematics Sessions

Estimated Time on Task by Grade and Session

Grade		Performance-Based Component						End-of-Year Component					Summative Total
		ELA/Literacy			Math		Total	ELA/Literacy		Math		Total	
		Literary Analysis	Research	Narrative	Session 1	Session 2		Session 1	Session 2	Session 1	Session 2		
3	Estimated Time on Task (minutes)	50	60	40	50	50	250	60	60	55	55	230	8 hours

Grades		Performance-Based Component						End-of-Year Component					Summative Total
		ELA/Literacy			Math		Total	ELA/Literacy		Math		Total	
		Literary Analysis	Research	Narrative	Session 1	Session 2		Session 1	Session 2	Session 1	Session 2		
4-5	Estimated Time on Task (minutes)	80	80	50	50	50	310	70	70	55	55	250	9 hours, 20 minutes

Grades		Performance-Based Component						End-of-Year Component					Summative Total
		ELA/Literacy			Math		Total	ELA/Literacy		Math		Total	
		Literary Analysis	Research	Narrative	Session 1	Session 2		Session 1	Session 2	Session 1	Session 2		
6-8	Estimated Time on Task (minutes)	80	85	50	50	50	315	70	70	55	55	250	9 hours, 25 minutes

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Note: Estimated time on task refers to an estimate of the amount of time the typical student will need to complete each session. While it is anticipated that most students will complete the test sessions within these estimated times, all participating students will have a set amount of additional time for each session to provide them with ample time to demonstrate their knowledge.

Estimated Time on Task by Grade and Session

Grades		Performance-Based Component						End-of-Year Component					Summative Total
		ELA/Literacy			Math		Total	ELA/Literacy		Math		Total	
		Literary Analysis	Research	Narrative	Session 1	Session 2		Session 1	Session 2	Session 1	Session 2		
9 -10 Alg I/ Math I Geo/ Math II	Estimated Time on Task (minutes)	80	85	50	50	50	315	70	70	65	65	270	9 hours, 45 minutes

Grade		Performance-Based Component						End-of-Year Component					Summative Total
		ELA/Literacy			Math		Total	ELA/Literacy		Math		Total	
		Literary Analysis	Research	Narrative	Session 1	Session 2		Session 1	Session 2	Session 1	Session 2		
11 Alg II / Math III	Estimated Time on Task (minutes)	80	85	50	65	65	345	70	70	55	55	250	9 hours, 55 minutes

Note: Estimated time on task refers to an estimate of the amount of time the typical student will need to complete each session. While it is anticipated that most students will complete the test sessions within these estimated times, all participating students will have a set amount of additional time for each session to provide them with ample time to demonstrate their knowledge.

Testing Window

- Each 20 day window is provided primarily to plan ample opportunity to administer the assessments via computer in schools with:
  - Limited number of devices
  - Limited bandwidth
- Schools will have a maximum of 20 days to administer each assessment component:
  - Performance Based Assessment (PBA) component
  - End of Year Assessment (EOY) component
- Schools could complete administration of the tests in fewer days if they have sufficient capacity to administer assessments to large numbers of students simultaneously

Device Guidance & Planning

- The overarching goal is to serve and support
  - High quality student instruction
  - Teacher professional development
  - School community communications *and*
  - Next Generation Assessments
- PARCC Minimum and Recommended Technology Guidelines:

http://www.parcconline/technology

Device Guidance & Planning

The number of devices a school needs for assessment is largely dependent on:

1) The number of students enrolled at each tested grade level;

2) The number of students that can be tested simultaneously given the way in which available devices are deployed (e.g. in labs, in classrooms, on carts, etc.); and

3) The available bandwidth capacity

“Rule of Thumb” Guidance

School type	Minimum number of devices	Recommended number of devices
For a school with three tested grades (K-5, 6-8, 9-12)	One device for every two students in the largest tested grade	One device per student for the largest tested grade
For a school with six tested grades (K-8)	One device per student for the largest tested grade	One device per student for the two largest tested grades

- These are general assessment planning guidelines. Districts may wish to recommend lower student to device ratios to ensure that schools can continue with computer-based instruction at the same time as they are conducting computer-based assessments.
- The expectation is that all students will take the PARCC assessments online.
- The PARCC assessments will be available in paper and pencil format for students with disabilities who have an Individualized Education Plans which requires this accommodation.

PARCC Assessment Administration Capacity Planning Tool

- The Assessment Administration Capacity Planning tool is simply an electronic spreadsheet that allows schools to evaluate the extent to which their ***current*** computer inventory and bandwidth is sufficient to administer PARCC's computer-based assessments, as well as model what they could do with increased capacity

- The tool and accompanying users' guide can be found:

  http://www.parcconline.org/assessment-administration-guidance

PARCC Assessment Administration Capacity Planning Tool

The following **school-level** information will need to be entered in the Planning Tool:

1) The number of students in each tested grade:
2) The number of computers available for testing that meet PARCC's minimum technology specifications;*
3) Bandwidth availability;
4) Estimates for instructional and office uses of bandwidth that will be taking place during assessment sessions; and
5) The number of assessment administration days to use as a target for the calculated models.

* Data derived from the Technology Readiness Tool that meet minimum technology specifications.

PARCC Assessment Administration Capacity Planning Tool

- Assumptions Used by the Tool:
  - Each individual student will not take more than one session per day
  - The default minimum testing window is 5 schools days for the Performance Based Assessment (PBA) components and 5 school days for the End of Year Assessment (EOY) components
  - The tool uses bandwidth levels that are at the high end of industry averages for technology and media rich online assessments – a maximum bandwidth demand of 100 kbps for online administration where students maintain an active connection to the Internet throughout the test and 30 kbps for administration of tests using caching approaches (browser or proctor caching) that have much lower per student bandwidth demands
  - The final bandwidth requirements for PARCC assessments have not yet been determined, and are dependent of PARCC's development of next generation assessment items and the technology platform to deliver them. PARCC anticipates the release of final bandwidth requirements by October 2013.

PARCC Assessment Administration Capacity Planning Tool

SMALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EXAMPLE

Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)

Assessment Capacity Planning Tool

Release Version 1: March 5, 2013

This tool is continually being updated and improved. Please visit http://www.parcconline.org/assessment-administration-guidance for the most current versions of the Capacity Planning Tool and related information.

	Input fields to be completed by school
	Background data values and/or interim calculations
	Calculated capacity planning data

PLEASE NOTE: **This document is for planning purposes only, to provide estimated values of high level assessment capacity calculations. The estimated specifications and other assumptions used in this tool are subject to change.**

Please refer to the Assumptions Tab and the Users' Guide to the Assessment Administration Capacity Planning Tool for more information and assistance in using and interpreting the Planning Tool.

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PARCC Assessment Administration Capacity Planning Tool

ENTER YOUR SCHOOL DATA

STUDENTS

Enter Student Population Estimates for the 2014-2015 School Year:

Grade	Total population
3	122
4	118
5	120
6	124
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
TOTAL	484

DEVICES

Enter the number of computer devices available for assessment that meet PARCC Minimum Technology Specifications:
(For assistance in calculating eligible devices, please use the separate PARCC-SBAC Technology Readiness Tool and PARCC Technology Guidelines)

Devices available for assessment that meet PARCC minimum specifications- By Location	
Computers that can be used simultaneously in classrooms or are on computer carts	36
Computers that can be used simultaneously in computer labs	15
TOTAL	51

PARCC Assessment Administration Capacity Planning Tool

NUMBER OF ADMINISTRATION DAYS

Enter your preferred number of administration days to be used in calculating planning models (PARCC maximum = 20 days, PARCC minimum = 5 days. States or districts may set different requirements.)

	Enter your preferred number of administration days
Run calculations using the PARCC estimate of a 20-day maximum OR Use a different number of administration days (for example, states or districts may establish different requirements)	20

BANDWIDTH

Enter information about the school's average connection speed to the Internet (total kbps as reported by your Internet Service Provider or district technology office):

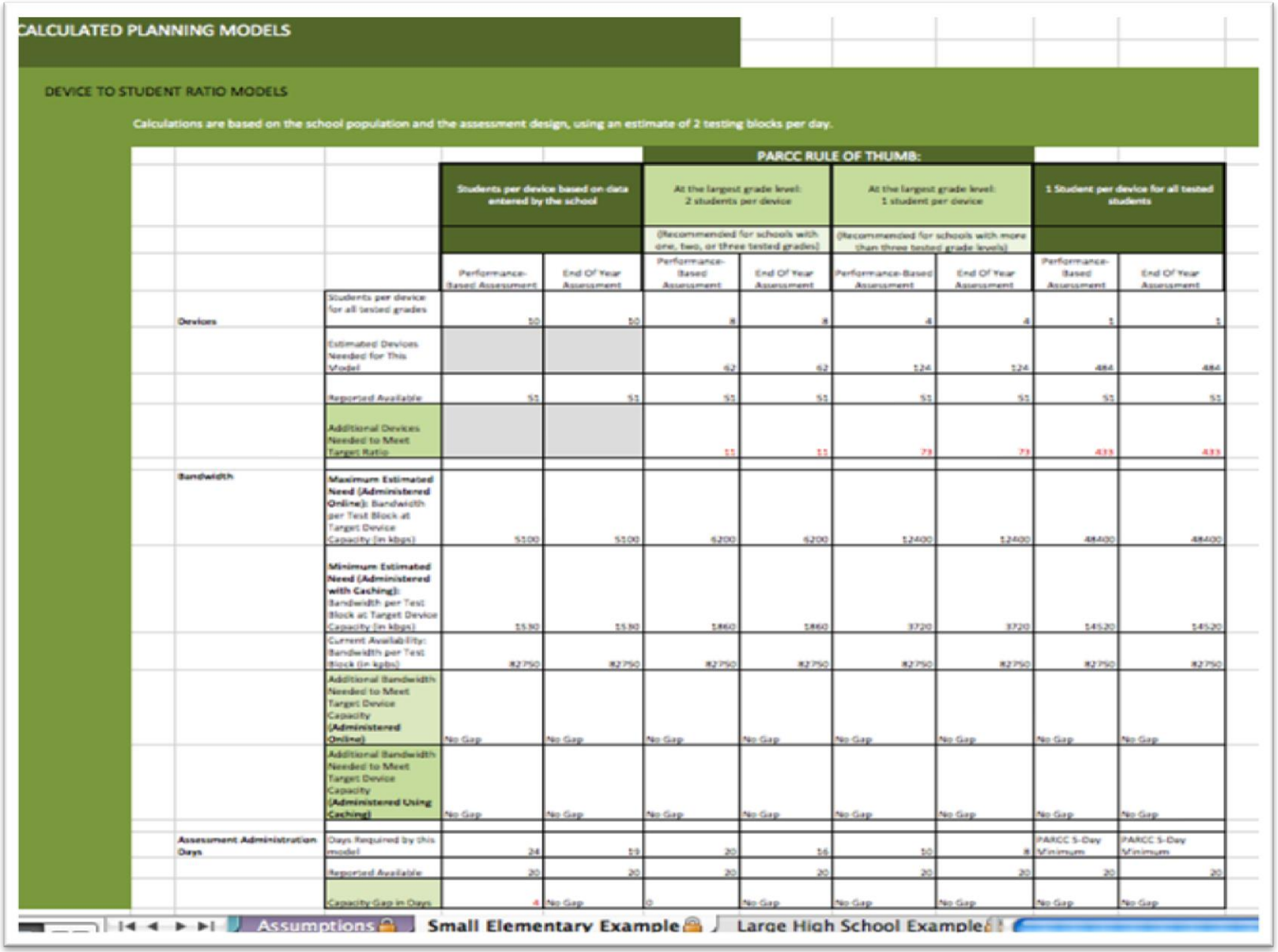
(PARCC encourages schools to run a trusted speed test tool to generate this estimate. More information is provided in the Capacity Planning Tool Users' Guide. Alternately, schools my use as an estimate the connectivity as reported by your Internet Service Provider or district technology office):

Internal Connection Speed (kbps)	External Connection Speed (kbps)
100000	100000

PARCC Assessment Administration Capacity Planning Tool

Type of Use	Number of simultaneous users (students, teachers, administrators) engaged in activity	Average bandwidth demand in Kbps (for reference)	Bandwidth In Use
Email	5	500	2500
Web Browsing		500	0
Online Learning (not interactive)		250	0
Online Learning (interactive/single player)		1000	0
Audio Streaming		100	0
Student Content Creation	90	150	13500
Accessing School/District Portal	5	250	1250
Video Streaming (standard quality)		700	0
Video Streaming (high-definition)		4000	0
Video Conferencing (standard quality)		1000	0
Video Conferencing (high-definition)		4000	0
VoIP		500	0
		TOTAL	17250

Note: Average bandwidth demands of common school technology activities derived from those used by the State Educational Technology Directors Association in their 2012 report The Broadband Imperative, as well as SETDA's original source -- the School 2.0 Bandwidth Calculator (http://etoolkit.org/etoolkit/bandwidth_calculator).



CALCULATED PLANNING MODELS

DEVICE TO STUDENT RATIO MODELS

Calculations are based on the school population and the assessment design, using an estimate of 2 testing blocks per day.

		Students per device based on data entered by the school		PARCC RULE OF THUMB: At the largest grade level: 2 students per device (Recommended for schools with one, two, or three tested grades)		At the largest grade level: 1 student per device (Recommended for schools with more than three tested grade levels)		1 Student per device for all tested students	
		Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment	Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment	Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment	Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment
Devices	Students per device for all tested grades	50	50	8	8	4	4	1	1
	Estimated Devices Needed for This Model			62	62	124	124	484	484
	Reported Available	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
	Additional Devices Needed to Meet Target Ratio			11	11	73	73	433	433
Bandwidth	**Maximum Estimated Need (Administered Online):** Bandwidth per Test Block at Target Device Capacity (in kbps)	5100	5100	6200	6200	12400	12400	48400	48400
	Minimum Estimated Need (Administered with Caching): Bandwidth per Test Block at Target Device Capacity (in kbps)	1550	1550	1860	1860	3720	3720	14520	14520
	Current Availability: Bandwidth per Test Block (in kpbs)	82750	82750	82750	82750	82750	82750	82750	82750
	Additional Bandwidth Needed to Meet Target Device Capacity **(Administered Online)**	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap
	Additional Bandwidth Needed to Meet Target Device Capacity **(Administered Using Caching)**	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap
Assessment Administration Days	Days Required by this model	24	19	20	16	10	8	PARCC 5-Day Minimum	PARCC 5-Day Minimum
	Reported Available	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
	Capacity Gap in Days	4	No Gap	0	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap

Assumptions | Small Elementary Example | Large High School Example

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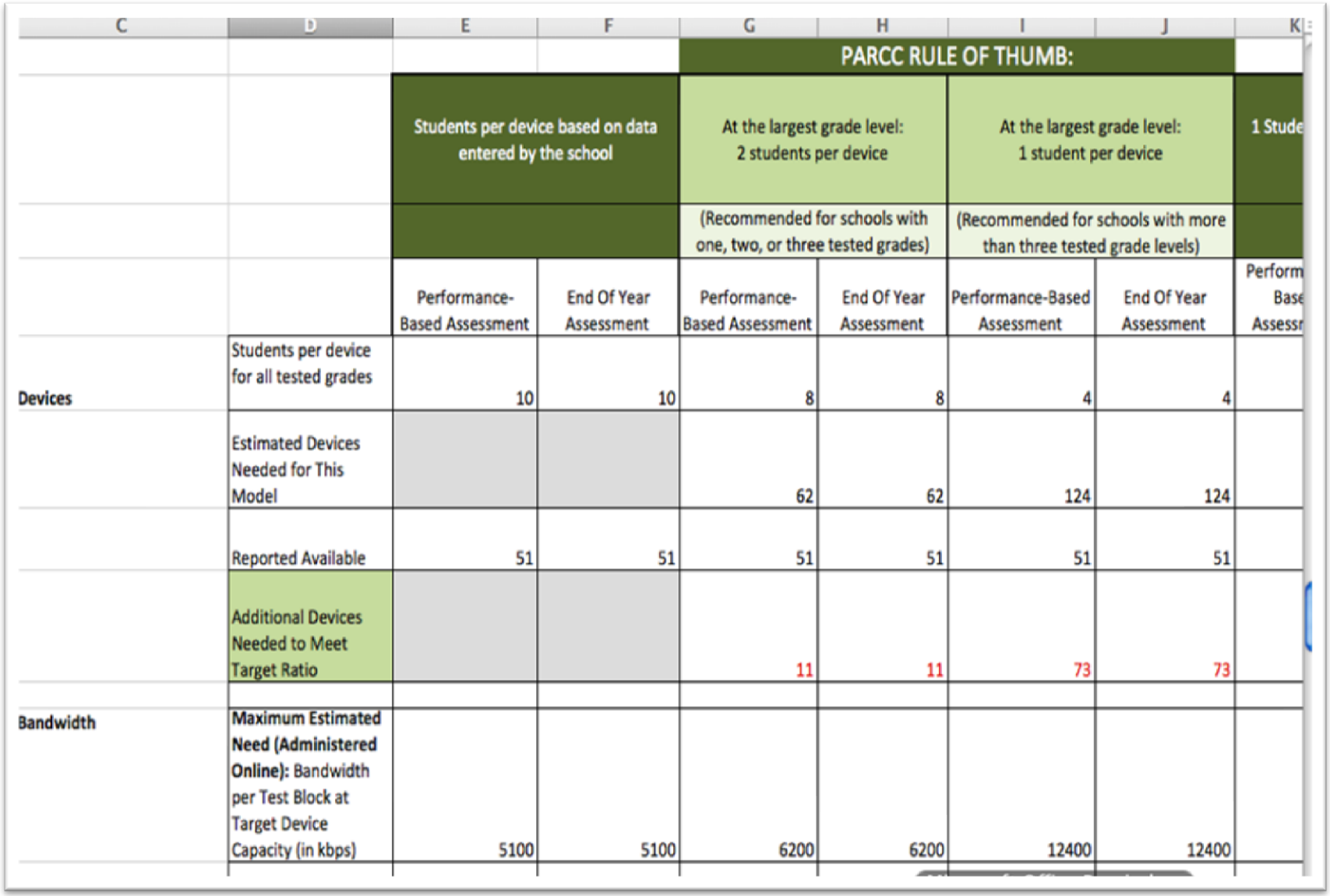

				PARCC RULE OF THUMB:				
		Students per device based on data entered by the school		At the largest grade level: 2 students per device		At the largest grade level: 1 student per device		1 Stude
				(Recommended for schools with one, two, or three tested grades)		(Recommended for schools with more than three tested grade levels)		
		Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment	Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment	Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment	Perform Base Assessr
Devices	Students per device for all tested grades	10	10	8	8	4	4	
	Estimated Devices Needed for This Model			62	62	124	124	
	Reported Available	51	51	51	51	51	51	
	Additional Devices Needed to Meet Target Ratio			11	11	73	73	
Bandwidth	**Maximum Estimated Need (Administered Online):** Bandwidth per Test Block at Target Device Capacity (in kbps)	5100	5100	6200	6200	12400	12400	

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ADMINISTRATION DAY MODELS

Calculations are based on the school population and the assessment design, using an estimate of 2 testing blocks per day.

		20 Days	20 Days	15 Days	15 Days	10 Days	10 Days	5 Days	5 Days
		Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment	Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment	Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment	Performance-Based Assessment	End Of Year Assessment
Devices	Minimum number of devices need to support the target number of administration days	61	49	81	65	121	97	242	194
	Reported Available	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
	Additional devices needed to meet the target number of administration days	10	No Gap	30	14	70	46	191	143
Bandwidth	**Maximum Estimated Need (Administered Online):** Bandwidth per Test Block at Target Device Capacity (in kbps)	6100	4900	8100	6500	12100	9700	24200	19400
	Minimum Estimated Need (Administered with Caching): Bandwidth per Test Block at Target Device Capacity (in kbps)	1830	1470	2430	1950	3630	2910	7260	5820
	Current Availability: Bandwidth per Test Block (in kpbs)	82750	82750	82750	82750	82750	82750	82750	82750
	Additional Bandwidth Needed to Meet Target Device Capacity **(Administered Online)**	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap
	Additional Bandwidth Needed to Meet Target Device Capacity **(Administered Using Caching)**	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap	No Gap

Assumptions | Small Elementary Example | Large High School Example

Normal View | Ready | Sum=122

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Review

- What are the PARCC summative assessment timelines?
- Which grades and subjects will be tested with computer-based PARCC assessments?
- What will PARCC test administration look like?
- Will my current technology be adequate to administer the test?
- How many devices will be needed to assess my students?
- How do I determine if I have gaps in device inventory to administer the PARCC assessment?
- How much bandwidth is recommended for the PARCC assessments?

Contact Information

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TechReadinessTool

https://www.techreadiness.net

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Overview

The Technology Readiness Tool is a web-based application designed to:

(a) help schools and districts identify their current technology infrastructure and

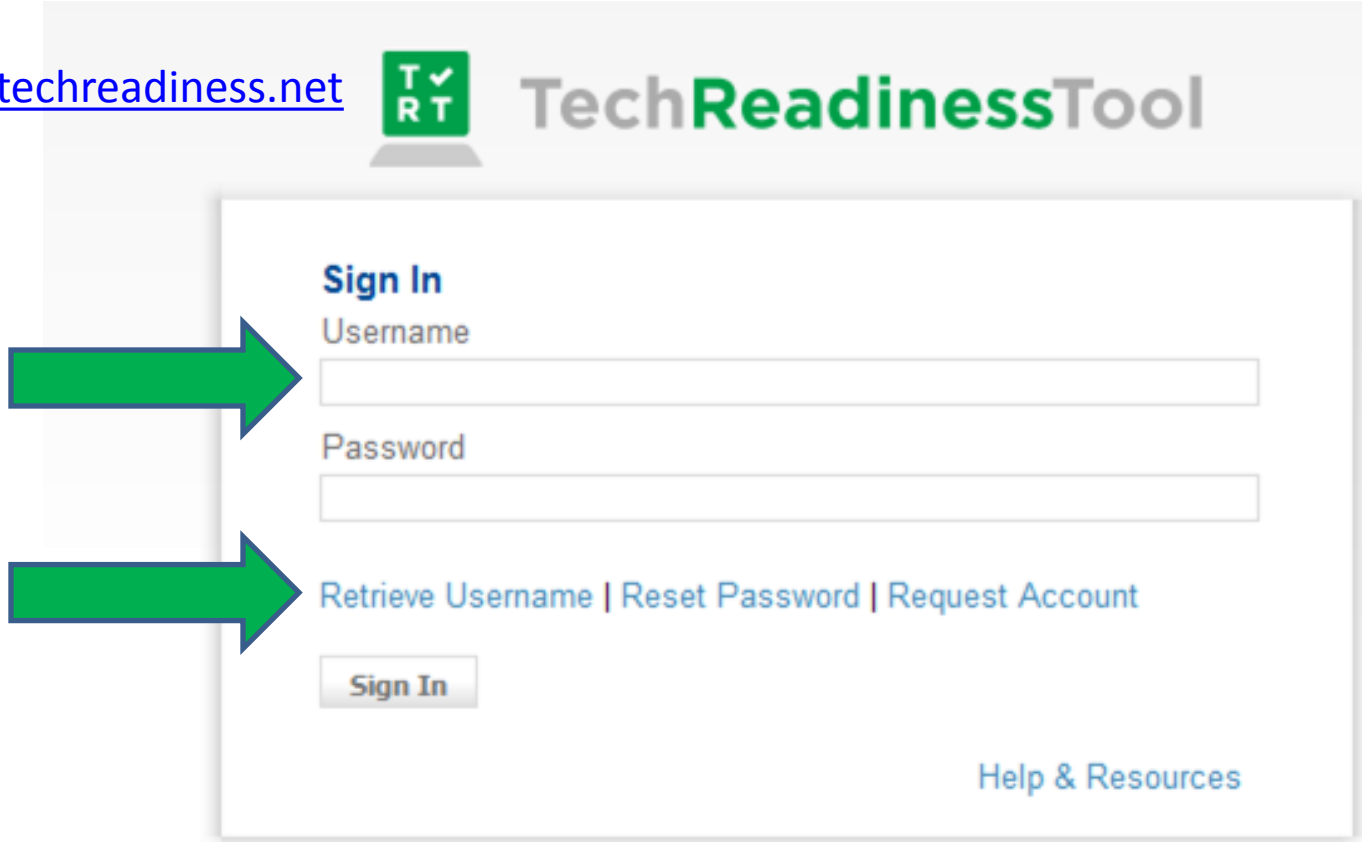
(b) assist the states and consortia in determining what next steps will best prepare schools and districts for a successful transition to online testing.

The Technology Readiness Tool assesses current capacity and compares that to the technology that will be needed to administer the new online assessments in four areas:

1. Computers & other devices
2. Ratio of devices to test-takers
3. Network and infrastructure
4. Personnel (staffing & training)

Accessing the Tool

https://www.techreadiness.net



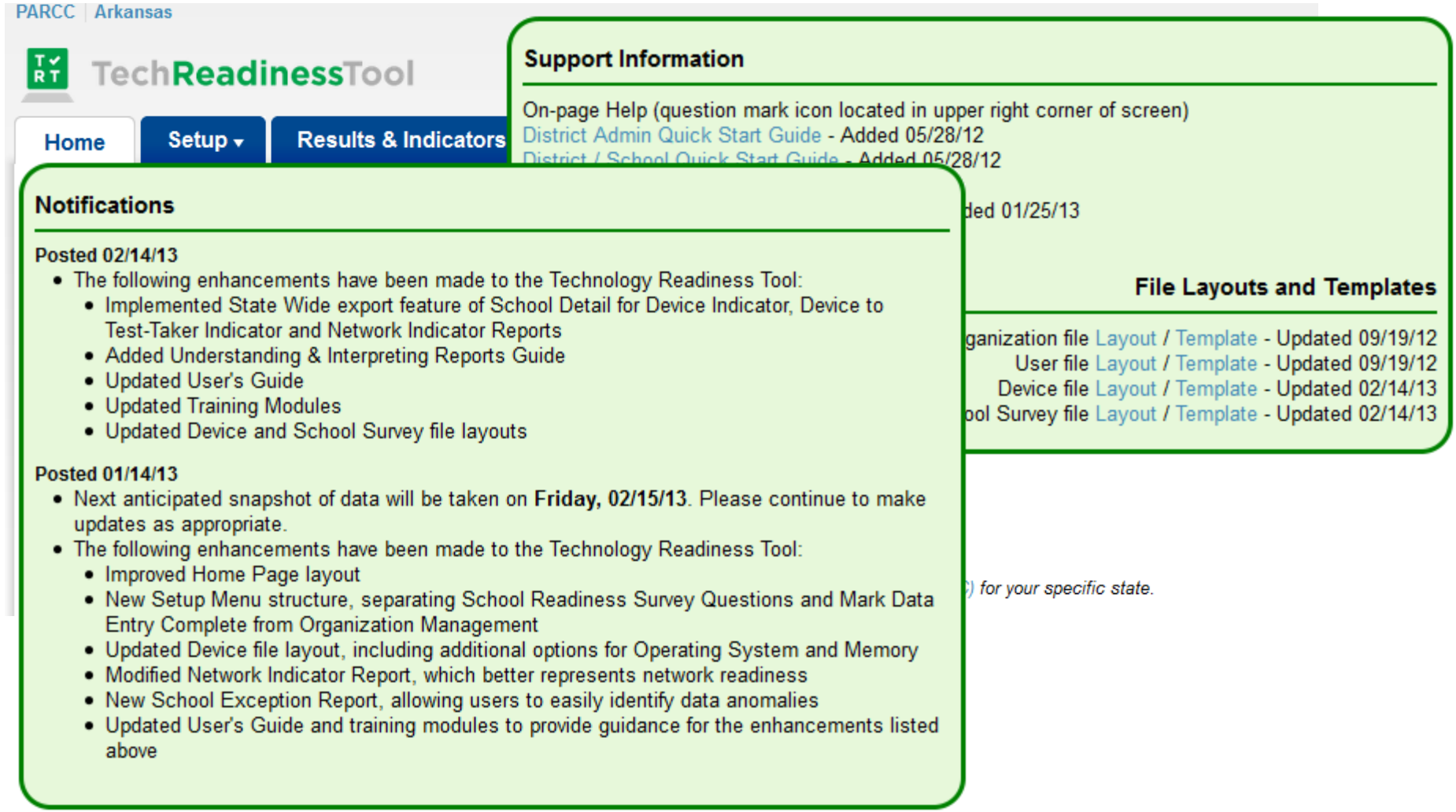
Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

PARCC Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers

SETDA State Educational Technology Directors Association — States Helping States

PEARSON

Arkansas Department of Education — Leadership Support Service



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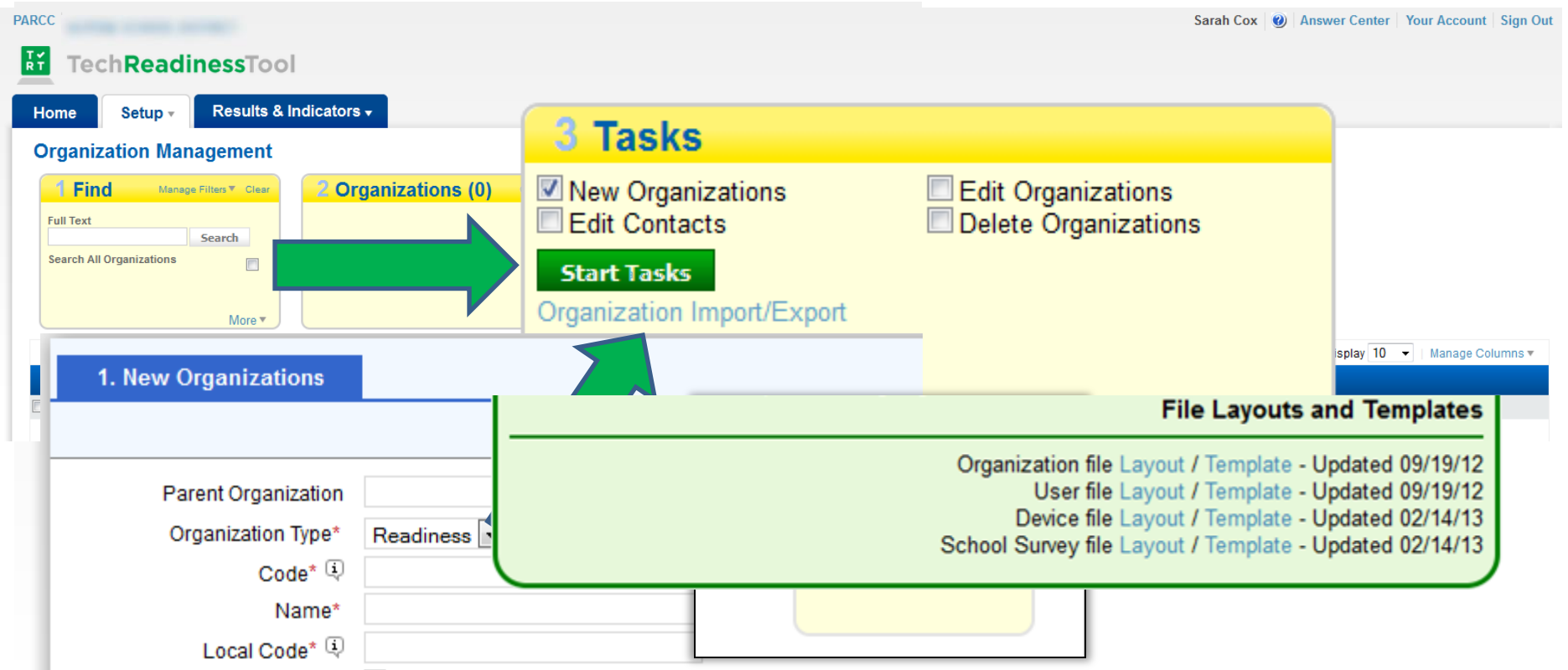

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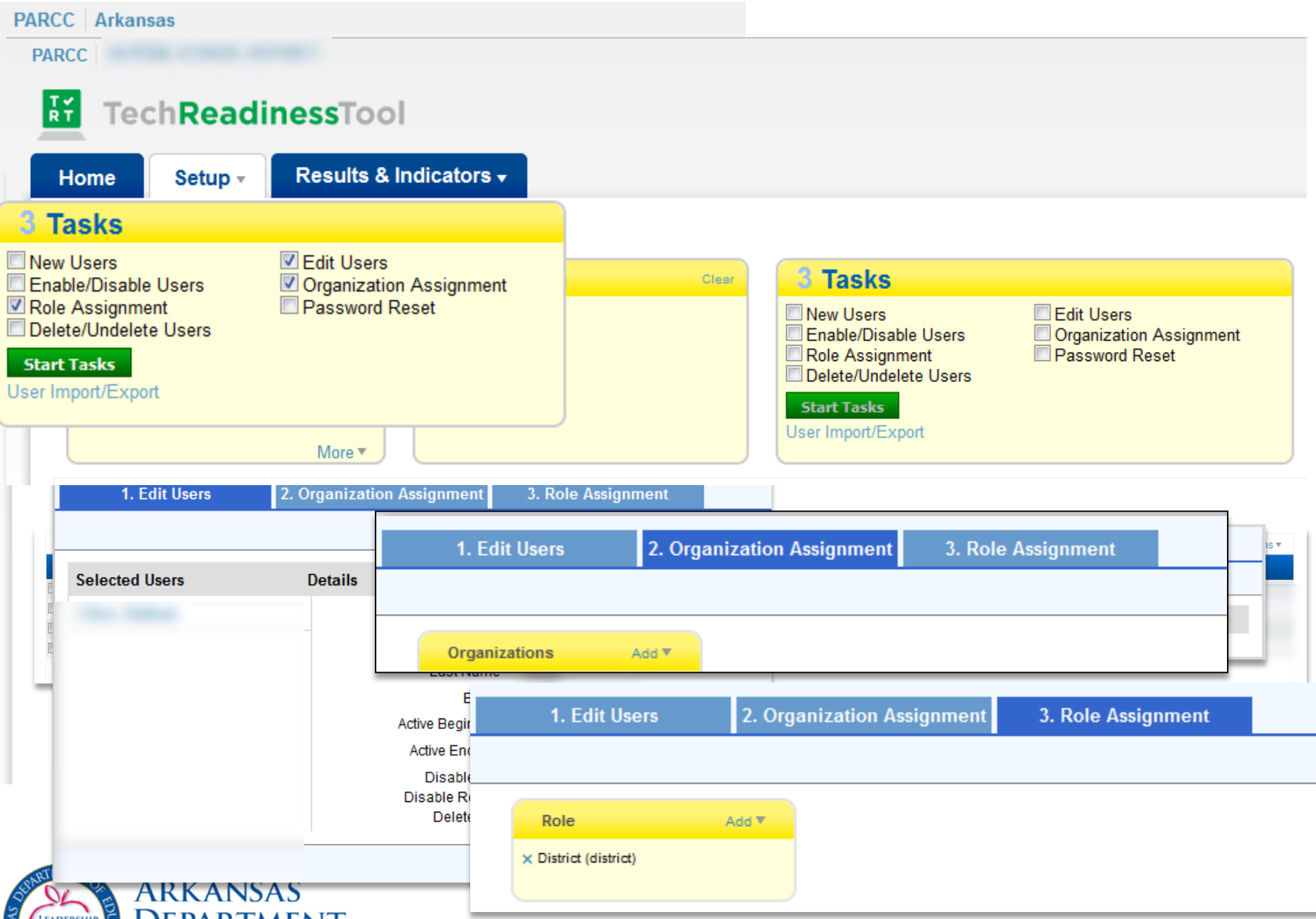

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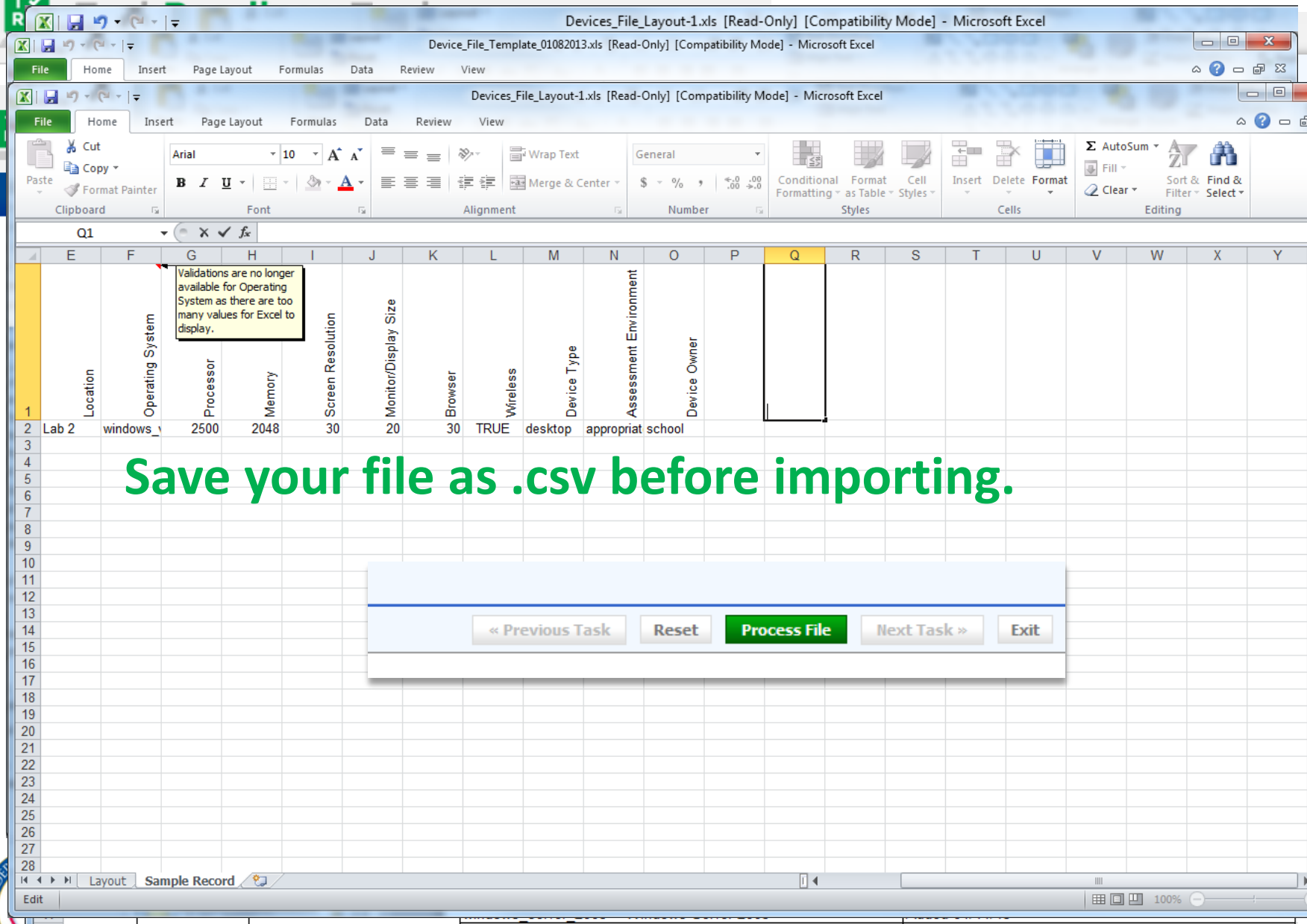
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Processor
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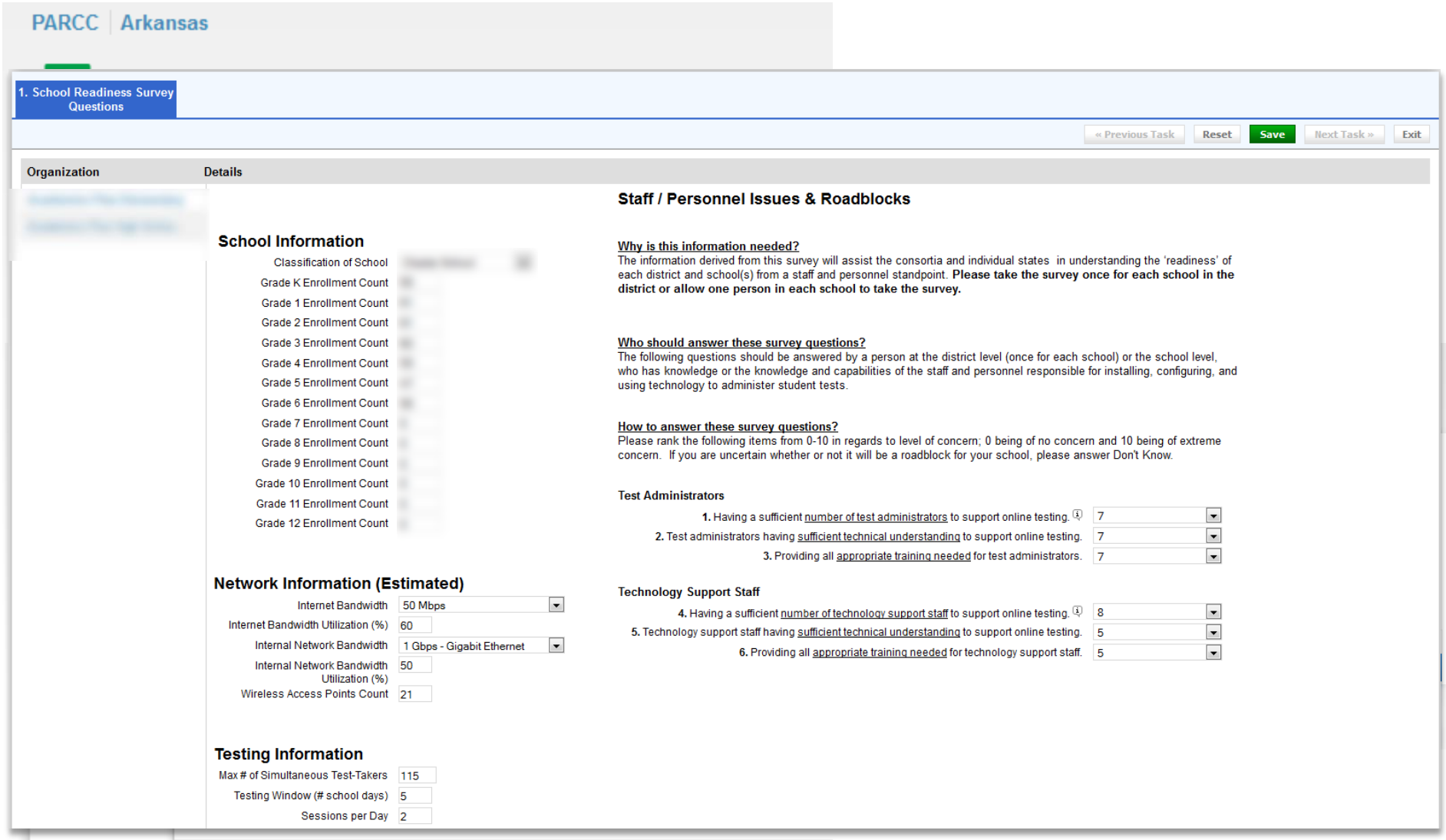

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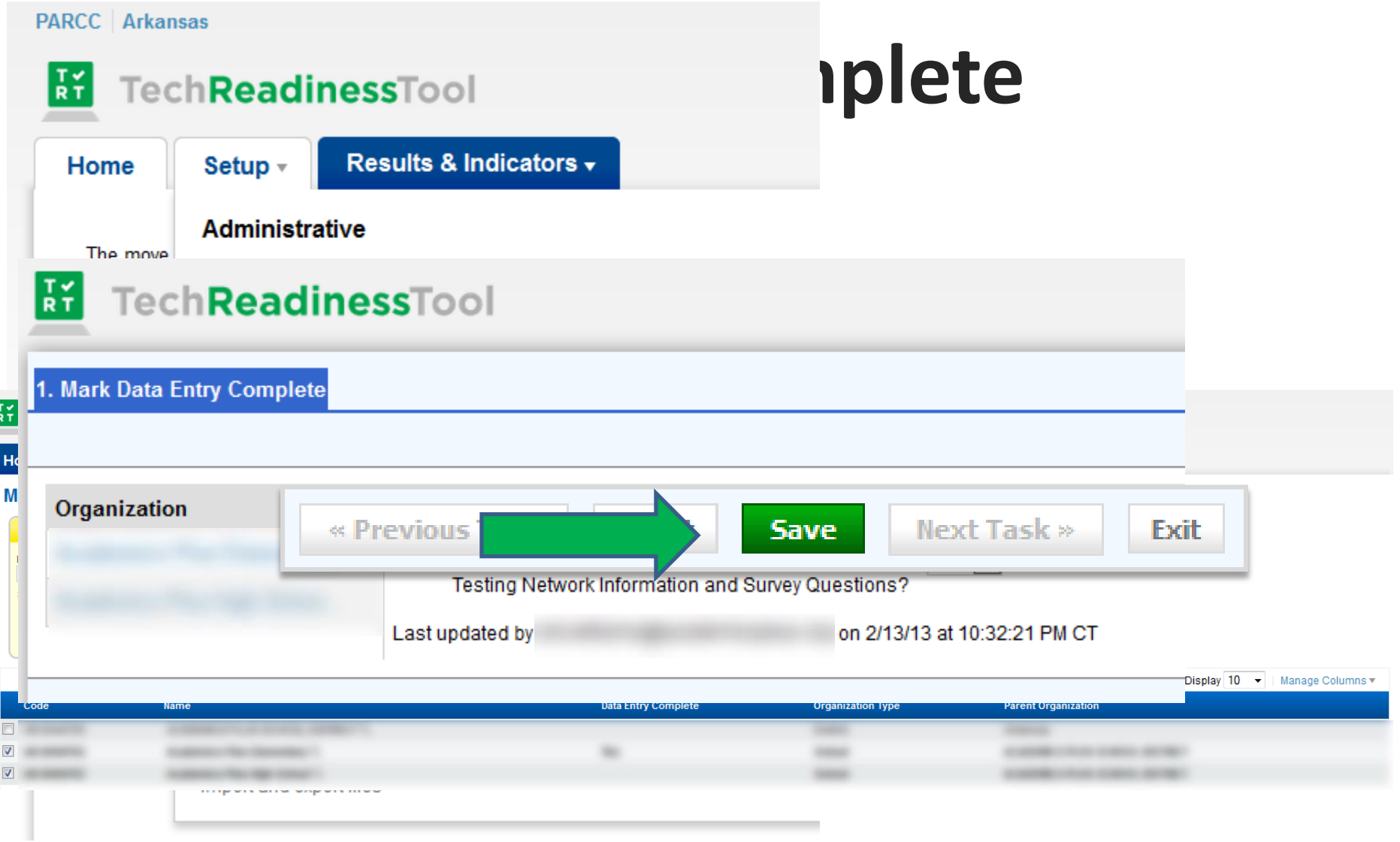
PARCC | Arkansas
TechReadinessTool
Home
Setup
Results & Indicators
Administrative
TechReadinessTool
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Organization
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Testing Network Information and Survey Questions?
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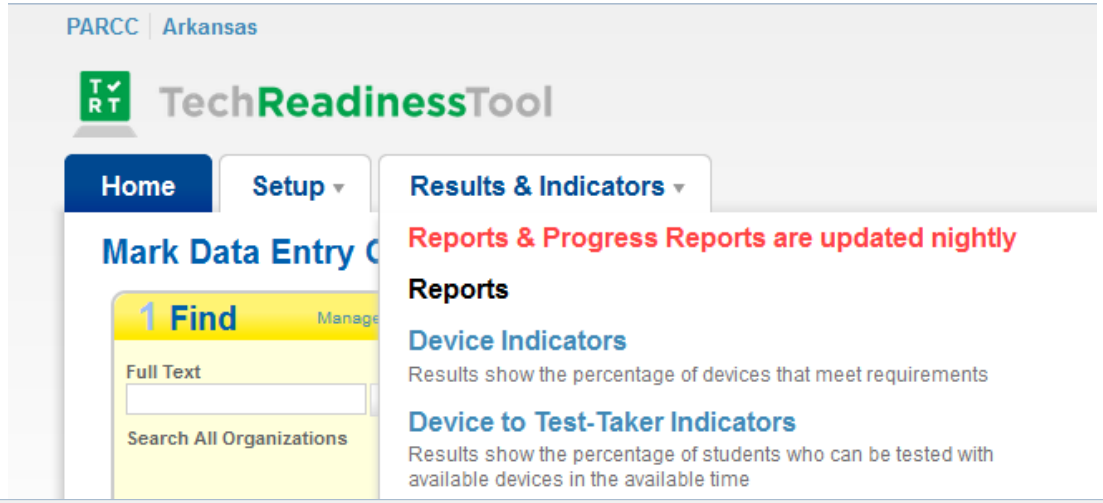
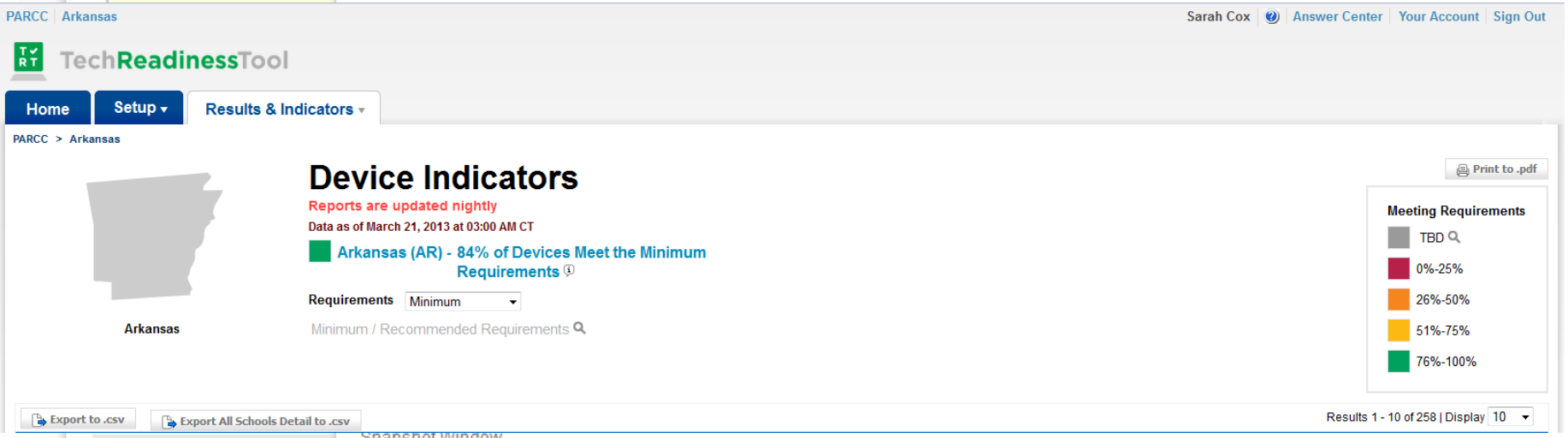
Display 10
Manage Columns
Code
Name
Data Entry Complete
Organization Type
Parent Organization





Snapshot Window.

Progress Report - Device to Test-Taker Indicators

Results show the percentage of students who can be tested with available devices in the available time for each Snapshot Window.

Progress Report - Network Indicators

Results show the percentage of bandwidth currently available to test the maximum number of simulateneous test-takers for each Snapshot Window.

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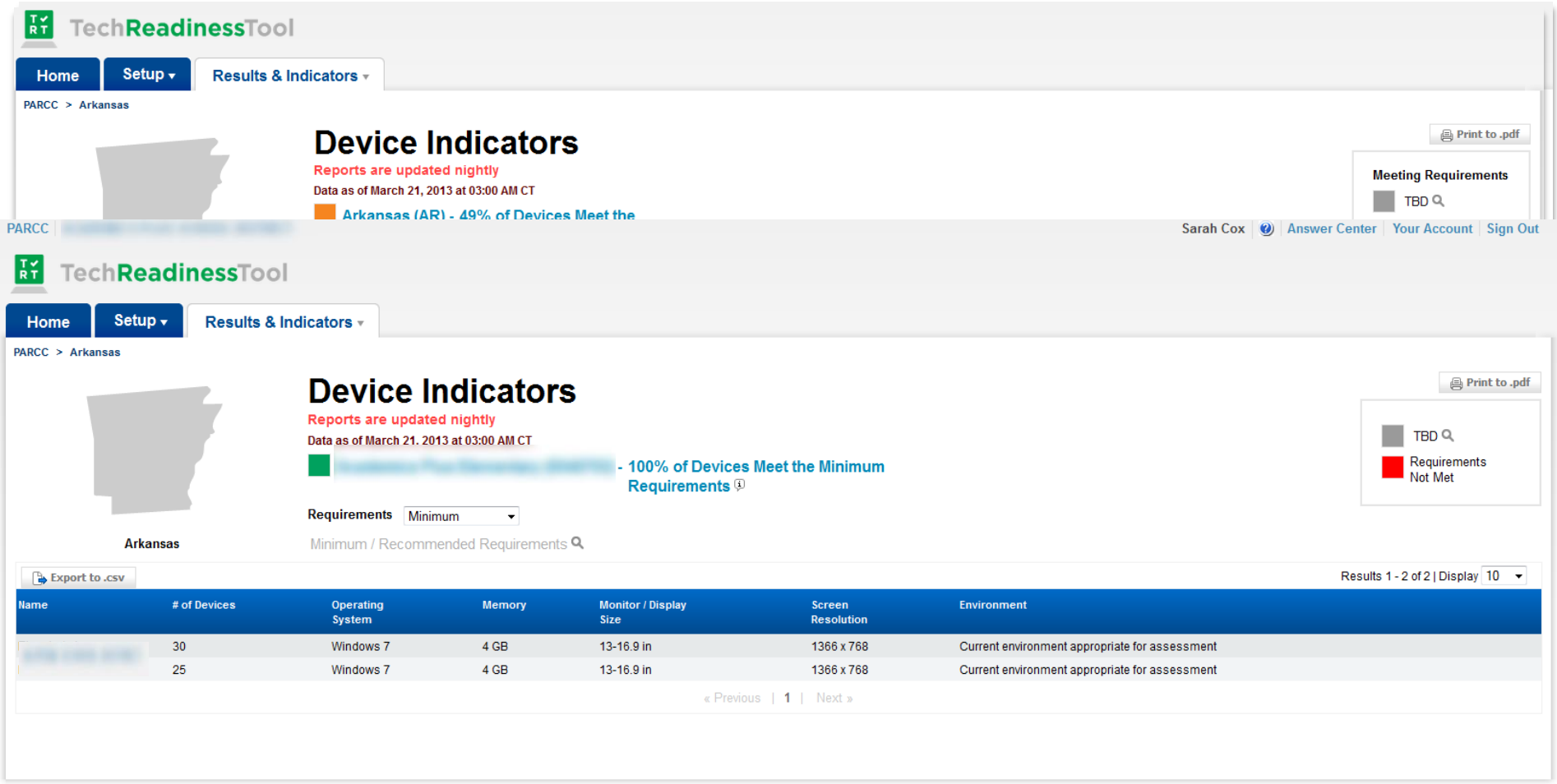
Device Indicators



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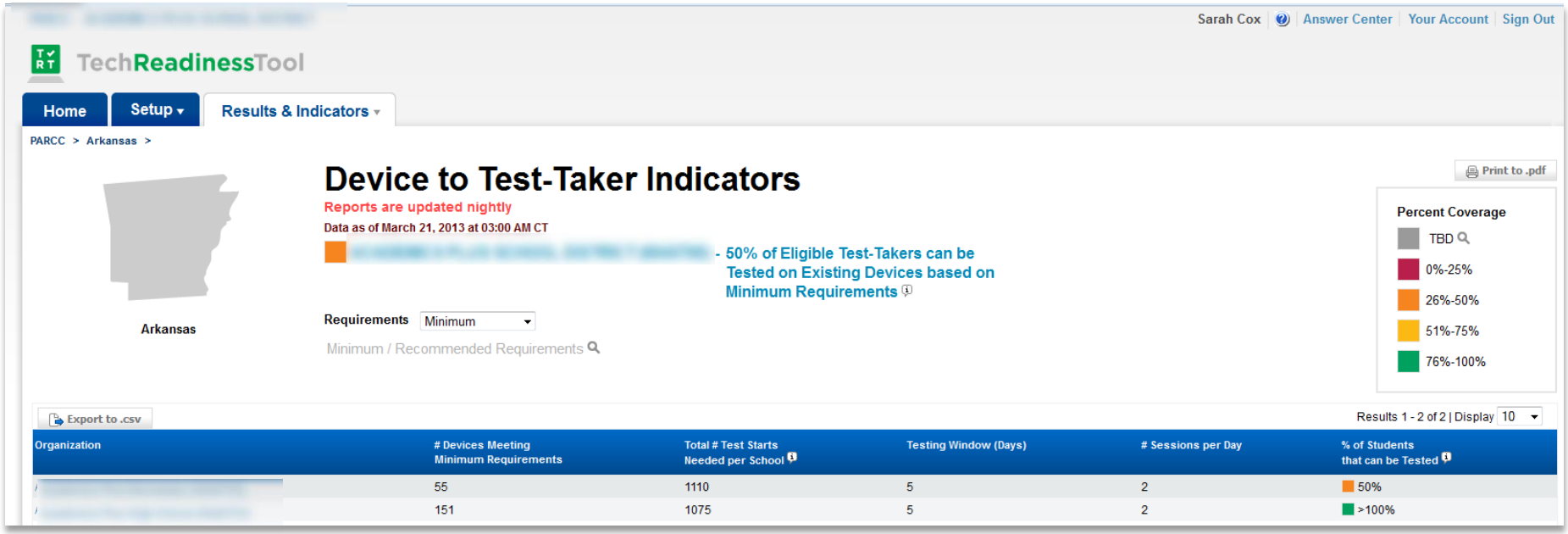
Device to Test-Taker Indicators



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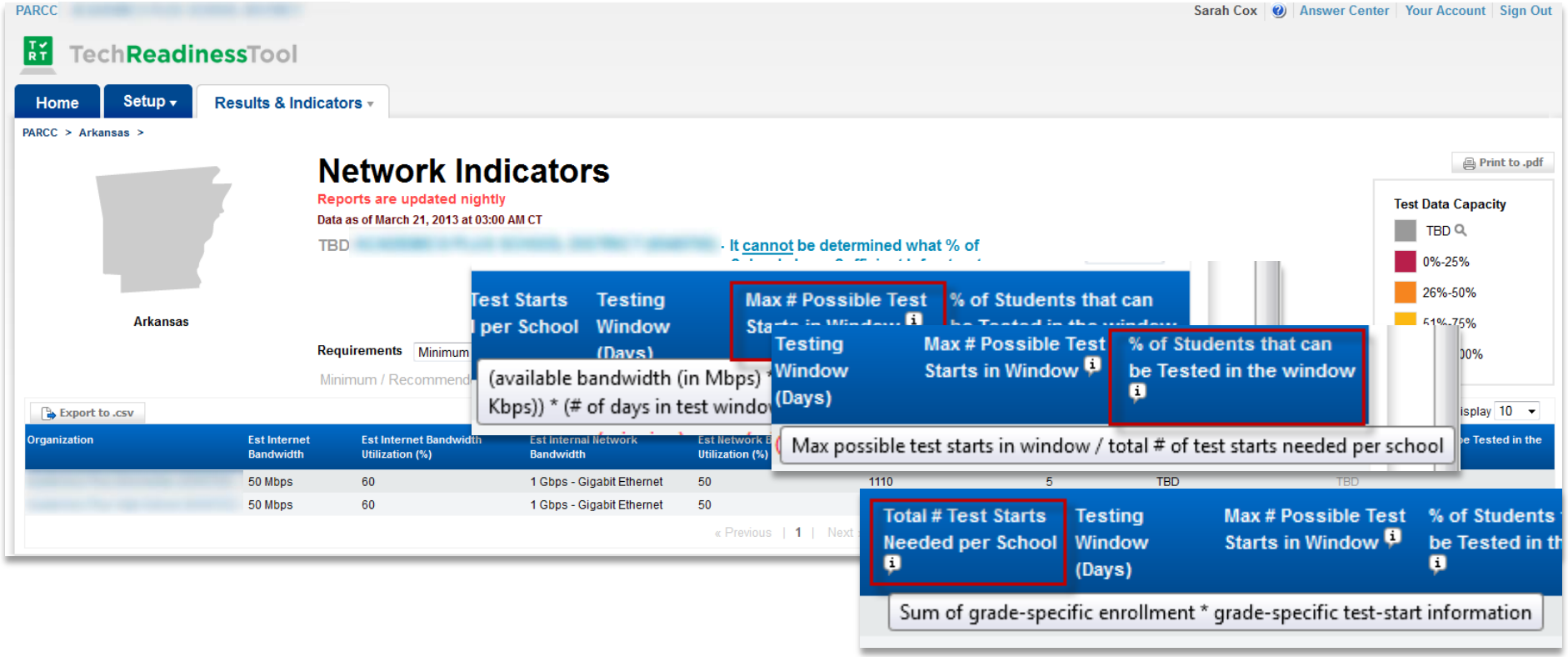
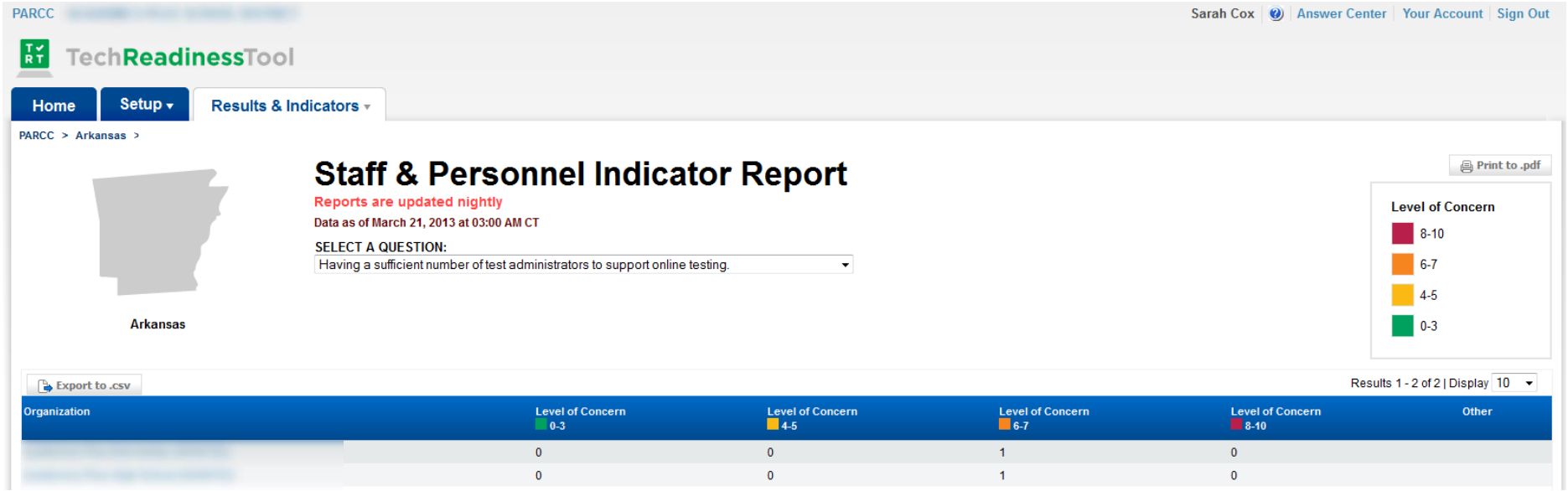
Network Indicators



Staff & Personnel Indicator Report



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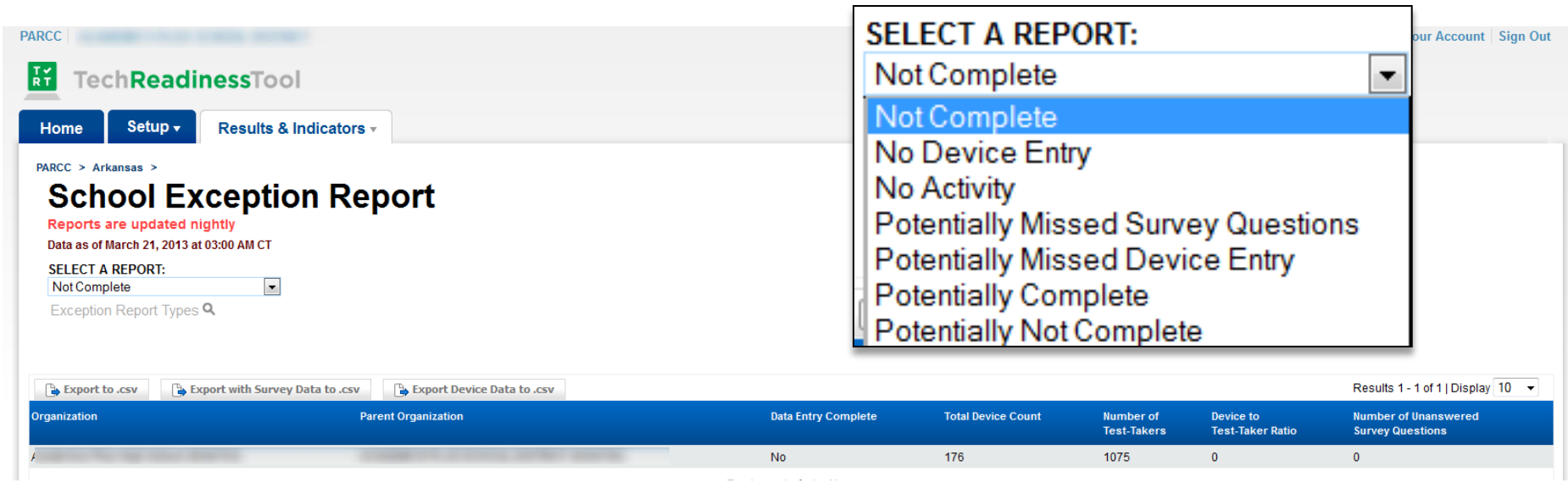
School Exception Report



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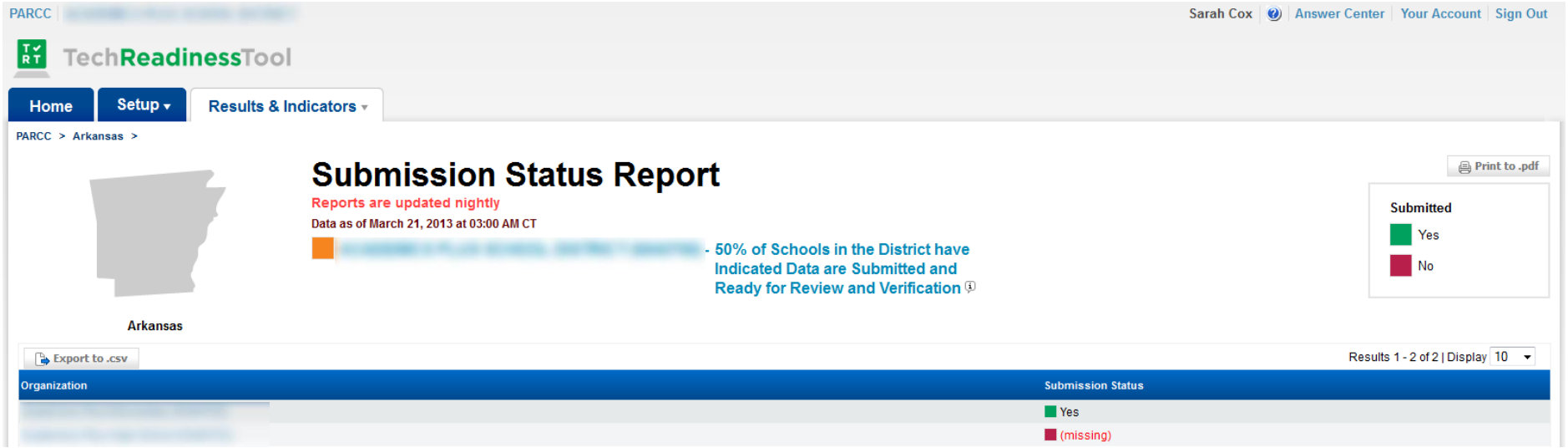
Submission Status Report



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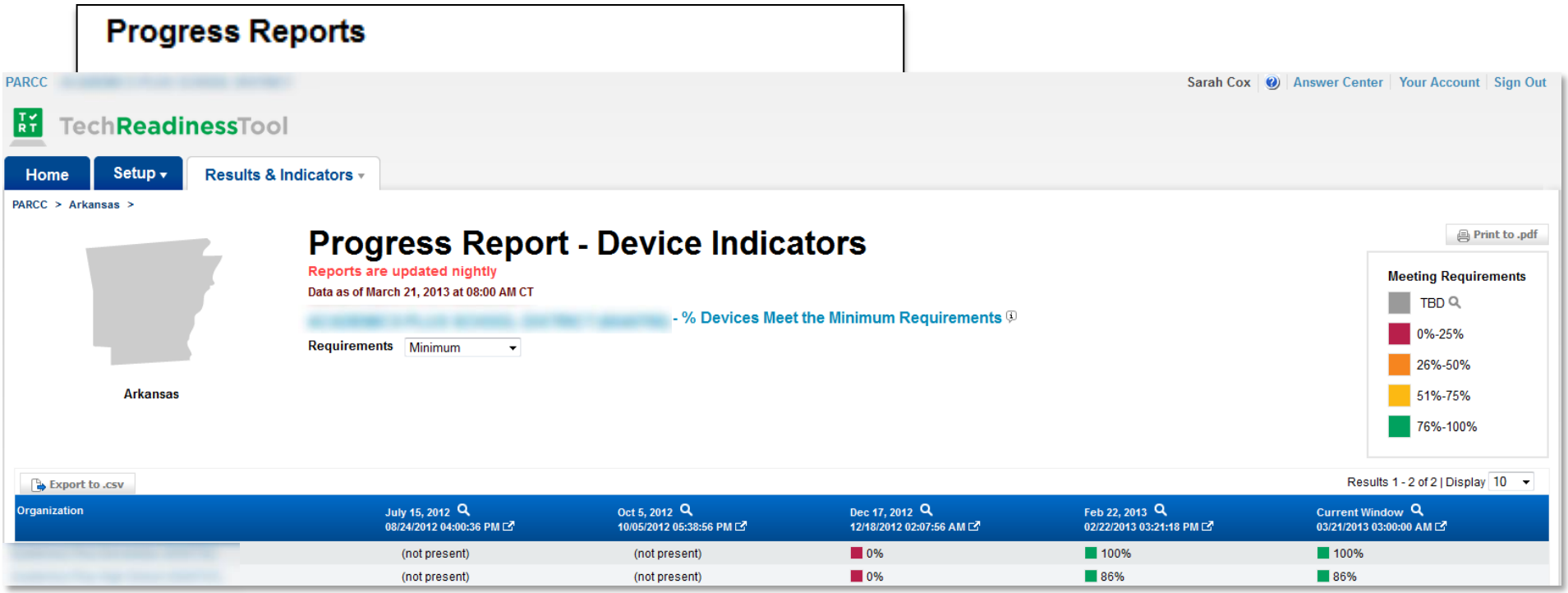
Progress Reports

Provide a point-in-time view of results for each snapshot window.



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PARCC Technology Guidance

Minimum/Recommended Specifications

- **Minimum Specifications -** Computers meeting these guidelines can be considered as satisfying PARCC guidelines for 2014-2015 school year.

- **Recommended Specifications** - Computers meeting these guidelines can be expected to satisfy PARCC guidelines through the 2018-2019 school year.

Bandwidth Recommendations

Minimum bandwidth requirements will be determined based on the final specifications of the PARCC assessment delivery platform and the level of multimedia and technology enhanced items in the final assessment design. PARCC will provide minimum specifications by October 2013.

	Minimum Specifications	Recommended Specifications
External Connection to the Internet	To be determined by October 2013	100 kbps per student or faster
Internal School Network	To be determined by October 2013	1000 kbps per student or faster

Device Specifications

Desktops, laptops, netbooks (Windows, Mac, Chrome, Linux), thin client, and tablets (iPad, Windows, and Android) will be compatible devices provided they meet the established hardware, operating system, and networking specifications—and are able to meet the security requirements.

Desktop, Laptop, Netbook and Thin Client Specifications

Desktop, Laptop, Netbook, and Thin Client[1]/VDI Computers		
Operating System	Minimum Specifications[2]	Recommended Specifications
Windows	[3,4]Windows XP – Service Pack 3	Windows 7 or newer
Mac OS	Mac OS 10.5	Mac OS 10.7 or newer
Linux	Ubuntu 9-10, Fedora 6	Linux: Ubuntu 11.10, Fedora 16 or newer
Chrome OS	Chrome OS 19	Chrome OS 19 or newer
Memory	512 MB of RAM	1 GB RAM or greater
Connectivity	Computers must be able to connect to the Internet via wired or wireless networks.	Computers must be able to connect to the Internet via wired or wireless networks.
Screen Size	9.5 inch screen size or larger	9.5 inch screen size or larger
Screen Resolution	1024 x 768 resolution[5] or better	1024 x 768 resolution[5] or better
Input Device Requirements	Keyboard Mouse or Touchpad or Touchscreen	Keyboard Mouse or Touchpad or Touchscreen
	The input device must allow students to select/deselect, drag, and highlight text, objects, and areas. The input device must allow students to enter letters, numbers, and symbols and shift, tab, return, delete, and backspace. To meet security guidelines, each Bluetooth/wireless keyboard must be configured to pair with only a single computer during assessment administration. Other assistive technologies may be needed for students requiring accommodations. PARCC will release Accessibility Guidelines and Accommodations Guidelines in June 2013.	
Headphone/Earphone and Microphone Requirements	Headphones/Earphones Microphone	Headphones/Earphones Microphone
	Headphones/earphones are required for all students for all PARCC assessments. Some student accommodations may also require headphones/ earphones (e.g., text to speech). Microphones are required for all students taking the Speaking and Listening Assessment. Some student accommodations may also require microphones (e.g., speech to text, voice controls) for other parts of the PARCC assessments.	

Tablet Specifications

Tablets		
Operating System	Minimum Specifications	Recommended Specifications
Android	Android 4.0 (with 512 MB RAM or greater)	Android 4.0 or newer (with 1GB RAM or greater)
Apple iOS	iPad 2 running iOS 6 (with 512 MB RAM or greater)	iPad 2 or newer running iOS6 or newer (with 512 MB RAM or greater)
Windows	[6]Windows 8 (with 512 MB RAM or greater)	[6]Windows 8 or newer (with 1GB RAM or greater)
Memory	By operating system	By operating system
Connectivity	Computers must be able to connect to the Internet via wired or wireless networks.	Computers must be able to connect to the Internet via wired or wireless networks.
Screen Size	9.5 inch screen size or larger[7]	9.5 inch screen size or larger[7]
Screen Resolution	1024 x 768 resolution[5] or better	1024 x 768 resolution[5] or better
Input Device Requirements	Keyboard Touchscreen or Mouse	Keyboard Touchscreen or Mouse
	Due to the onscreen space occupied by a tablet's virtual keyboard, PARCC assessments will require external keyboards for test takers using tablets so as not to limit or obscure the view of test item content and related functionalities when text input is required. Research studies to be conducted by PARCC in Spring 2013 are intended to yield data on students' use of virtual versus external keyboards. PARCC will refine this guidance as needed based on these results. External keyboards must allow students to enter letters, numbers, and symbols and shift, tab, return, delete, and backspace. Tablet touchscreen interfaces can be used for student interactions with the assessments other than text input, including to select/deselect, drag, and highlight text, objects, and areas. To meet security guidelines, each Bluetooth/wireless keyboard must be configured to pair with only a single computer during assessment administration. Other assistive technologies may be needed for students requiring accommodations. PARCC will release Accessibility Guidelines and Accommodations Guidelines in June 2013.	
Headphone/Earphone and Microphone Requirements	Headphones/Earphones Microphone	Headphones/Earphones Microphone

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Security Requirements

Eligible devices of any type **must** have the administrative tools and capabilities to "lock down" the device to temporarily disable features, functionalities, and applications that could present a security risk during test administration. Examples include:

• Unrestricted Internet Access	• Cameras (still & video)
• Screen capture	• Email
• Instant messages/chat	• Bluetooth connections
• Application switching	• Printing

Additional Information

http://www.parcconline.org/technology

Questions

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